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# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT** 

24 June 2022

#### (U) CALIFORNIA

# (U) Los Angeles – Recall Gascón Campaign Evacuated After Receiving Threatening Letter with 'White Powder'

(U) Members of a campaign pushing for the recall of embattled Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascón were forced to evacuate the campaign office after receiving a suspicious envelope. The Recall Gascón campaign confirmed that the group received an envelope "containing a white powder substance and Swastikas" on Thursday. The group was forced to evacuate from their West Los Angeles office after one of the workers opened the said envelope. As of late Thursday night, no arrests have been announced in connection to Thursday's incident. Investigators later determined the substance was baking powder.

SOURCE: 24 June 2022, <u>FOX 11</u>

#### (U) San Diego – Former US Military Pilot Admits to Acting as Paid Agent of China

(U) A former US Army helicopter pilot-turned-civilian-contractor pleaded guilty in federal court, admitting that he acted as an unregistered agent of China and accepted thousands-of-dollars from representatives of the Chinese government to provide aviation-related information from his defense-contractor employers. He also pleaded guilty to making related false statements during national security background checks.

SOURCE: 23 June 2022, US DOJ

#### (U) Santa Rosa – Three Members of Hells Angels Sent to Prison for Life after Murder Conviction

(U) Two members of the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club in Sonoma County have been convicted in federal court of murder in aid of racketeering, along with a third from Fresno. Jonathan Nelson, aka "Jon," 46, of Santa Rosa; Russell Taylor Ott, aka "Rusty," 69, also of Santa Rosa, and Brian Wayne Wendt, 45, of Tulare, were found to have killed one of their own members and to have taken part in conspiracy to commit murder, the Department of Justice said.

SOURCE: 23 June 2022, KTVU

### (U) Sunnyvale – \$100M in Cryptocurrency Stolen from California-Based Crypto Firm

(U) US cryptocurrency firm Harmony said on Friday that thieves stole around \$100 million worth of digital coins from one of its key products, the latest in a string of cyber heists on a sector long targeted by hackers. The California-based company said the heist hit its Horizon "bridge," a tool for transferring cryptocurrency between different blockchains—the underlying software used by digital tokens such as bitcoin and ether.

SOURCE: 24 June 2022, Reuters

#### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) Arizona – Authorities Seize \$5 Million Worth of Drugs During Two Separate Traffic Stops

(U) Navajo County – Two men were arrested after Arizona authorities seized nearly \$5 million worth of

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drugs during separate traffic stops. According to the Navajo County Sheriff's Office, deputies stopped a driver on 22 June 2022 on Interstate 40 near Sun Valley for several traffic violations. During their investigation, deputies "became suspicious of criminal activity" and a canine unit was deployed. "K-9 Kilo had a positive alert on the vehicle and a search revealed 124.1-pounds of methamphetamine, 0.8-grams of ecstasy, and a firearm," the sheriff's office said. The estimated street value of the drugs was \$3 million, and it was the largest meth seizure in the history of the sheriff's office. The second incident occurred hours later when deputies stopped another driver on I-40 for traffic violations. Deputies seized nearly 78,000 M-30 fentanyl pills. The estimated street value of the drugs was nearly \$2 million. SOURCE: 23 June 2022, KTVU

#### (U) Massachusetts – Man Sentenced for Bringing Molotov Cocktails to George Floyd Protest

(U) Worcester – A Massachusetts man who took three Molotov cocktails to a demonstration to protest the killing of George Floyd, and who shouted, "kill the police," has avoided any additional prison time. Vincent Eovacious, 20, of Worcester, was sentenced by a federal judge Thursday to time served, the three days he has already spent behind bars, and three-years of probation, according to federal prosecutors, who had sought a 13-month prison term.

SOURCE: 24 June 2022, <u>AP</u>

# (U) Michigan – Social Security Numbers Stolen in Flagstar Bank Data Breach

(U) Lansing – The personal information, including Social Security numbers, of more than 1.5 million Flagstar Bank customers was compromised in a data breach late last year, but the bank didn't start informing those affected until earlier this month after it completed its investigation. The Michigan-based bank, which operates 150 branches and is one of the country's largest mortgage lenders, said in a disclosure to the state of Maine that its systems were hacked between 3 and 4 December of last year. In a Thursday statement to CNET, Flagstar said that the intrusion was detected and contained right away, but that it held off disclosing the breach so it could investigate.

SOURCE: 23 June 2022, CNET

#### (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### (U) Mexico - Four Police, Up to Eight Suspects Killed After Gunmen Open Fire on Officers

(U) El Salto – Four police officers were shot and killed after being drawn into an ambush in western Mexico, and as many as eight suspected attackers were killed in a gun battle with other police who rushed to the site, authorities said Thursday. Chief prosecutor of the western state of Jalisco, said four municipal policemen in the city of El Salto responded to a call late Wednesday about armed men at a house. Once they arrived, a woman answered the door and told them nothing was wrong. But gunmen inside then opened fire on the officers, some of whom were dragged into the home and killed. SOURCE: 24 June 2022, AP

# (U) Mali – Malian Army Strikes Militants After Civilian Massacre

(U) Bamako – Mali's army has said it carried out air strikes against Macina Katiba jihadists in the country's center following a massacre of at least 132 civilians. Mali's interim government, led by Colonel Assimi Goita, declared three days of mourning for those killed in the massacre. The gunmen are said to have accused the victims of conspiring with mercenaries from the Russian Wagner group, which is supporting Mali's army in the fight against Islamic terrorists, according to AFP.

SOURCE: 23 June 2022, All Africa

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# (U) Yemen – Ten Yemeni Soldiers Killed During Two Separate Suspected Al-Qa'ida Attacks

(U) Abyan Province – At least ten Yemeni soldiers were killed in two separate attacks in south Yemen believed to have been carried out by Al-Qa'ida militants, officials said on Wednesday. A convoy belonging to Saudi-backed forces was attacked by armed men Tuesday night local time using roadside bombs in Abyan province. Three soldiers were killed, and two other bodies were recovered. A second attack targeted a military unit at a checkpoint in the southern town of Ateq in Shabwa province early on Wednesday, killing five soldiers. Two Yemeni officials confirmed the two attacks to the media. Several people were wounded in both attacks, they said.

SOURCE: 23 June 2022, Reuters

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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